

State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Nomination for Waters
Important to Anadromous Fish

Region **SOUTHEAST** 

USGS Quad **Bering Glacier A-4**

Anadromous Water Catalog Number of Waterway **192-30-11500-2032; 2032-3022; 2032-304**

Name of Waterway **Steller Creek** ☐ USGS Name ☒ Local Name

☒ Addition ☐ Deletion ☐ Correction ☐ Backup Information

For Office Use

Nomination # 98 166	<i>[Signature]</i> Regional Supervisor 3/19/98 Date
Revision Year: _____	<i>[Signature]</i> Date 10/31/97
Revision to: Atlas _____ Catalog _____	3/4/98 Date
Both X	3/6/98 Date
Revision Code: A-Z E-1	2. Brone Drafted

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
Coho Salmon	8/28/97 - 9/4/97		100+		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pink Salmon	8/28/97 - 9/4/98	3			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dolly Varden	9/4/97		1		<input type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>

IMPORTANT: Provide all supporting documentation that this water body is important for the spawning, rearing or migration of anadromous fish, including: number of fish and life stages observed; sampling methods, sampling duration and area sampled; copies of field notes; etc. Attach a copy of a map showing location of mouth and observed upper extent of each species, as well as other information such as: specific stream reaches observed as spawning or rearing habitat; locations, types, and heights of any barriers; etc.

Comments: Steller Creek flows into the South Fork of the Yakataga River. The main channel parallels the south boundary of Unit 13 Gulf Coast Timber Sale. The first major trib is approximately 1000 feet upstream from the 12/13 bridge (1000 mainline road). This trib has a side channel that is approximately 535' long and flows back into itself. The upper extent of trib 1 is reached at 3931' from the junction with the main Steller Cr. channel. Trib 1 has a flood plain 45' wide near the 10/14 bridge; evidence of high water being 2 to 3' deep; The upper extent of this trib is a high energy stream, cobble bottom, 4"-8" deep, lots of deep pools and water has been diverted around vertical drops. There are 5 more tribs on the main channel. All of these tribs, except trib 4, had fish present during the stream survey. Water visibility was good, main channel was <2% gradient 10 - 12' across 12" to 36" deep, lots of LWD, sand, gravel bottom. Upper extent not determined due to time constraints.

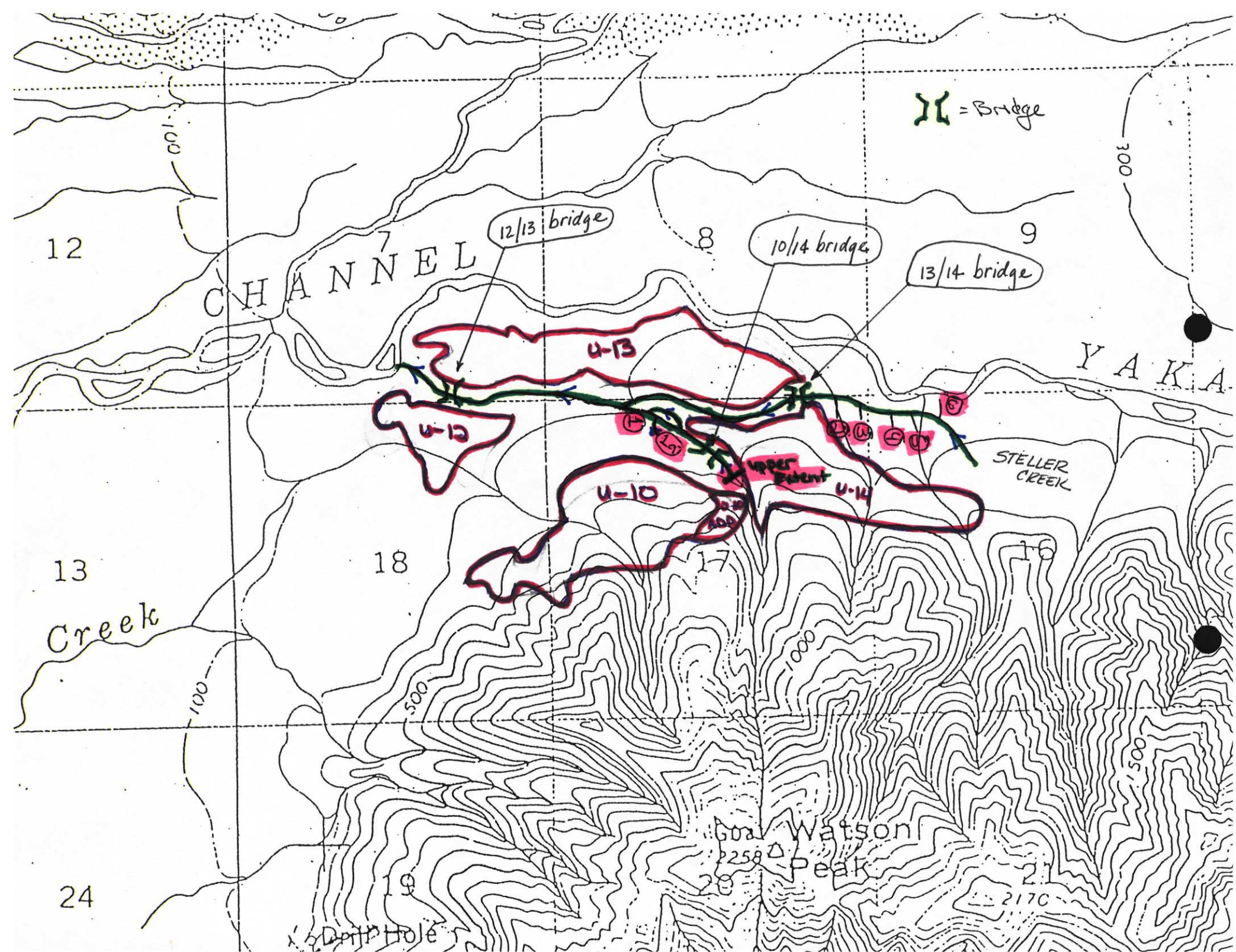
Name of Observer (please print) **Linda Perkins (FT III ADF&G)**
Date: **10/21/97** Signature: *[Signature]*
Address: **304 Lake St. Rm. 103**
Sitka, AK 99835

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This certifies that in my best professional judgment and belief the above information is evidence that this waterbody should be included in or deleted from the Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes per AS 16.05.870.

Signature of Area Biologist:

[Signature]



University Work Completed Trip 3

Tuesday, October 28, 1997

Walking down bridge 2 from the Cape Yakataga ML. Stream is 4' across cobble/gravel/sand. 4-6' deep lots of large woody debris in stream deep nice creek. Pink carcasses up and down streambank. At 607' a trib runs in on the left downstream. Wide trib sand clay bottom 8' wide 24" deep. Bank to bank is 12' coho fry present. Walking up trib 1 269' to the Hanley Bridge which is Charlie Creek. Very surprising. Completely missed this trib during out June field trip.

Walked up from bridge 2 to find upper extent of Charlie Creek.

Trib 1 - 357' upstream right side 87° East 2' across 4-6" deep, fish remains present. 311' feet up trib 1 there are ponds. Located on the other side of the old oil drilling road above Leichman's. Coho polygon would be in order for this area.

Trib 2 - 765' upstream coho fry present 30' up trib 2 is a 2 1/2' vertical block. Small rearing trib.

Trib 3 - 990' not fish vertical block at entrance.

1235' - Adult coho remains.

2190' upstream main channel is upper extent of fish habitat for Charlie Creek Bridge 2. Water subs underground. Lots of windthrow throughout the 100' buffer.

Monday November 3, 1997

Walked up Stellar Cr. from the 13/14 bridge to find upper extent of fish tribs and Stellar Creek itself.

(Trib 1 is before the 13/14 bridge, it leads to the 10/14 bridge)

Trib A has coho fry present 12" to 16" wide sandy bottom. 51' up the trib is a vertical block.

Trib 2 - small trib sandy bottom subs under root wad for short distances. 6-8" wide 1" deep widens up further up to 12' 16". 202' up the stream it splits main goes to the right. 338' up the right stem is a vegetation block coho fry present to this point end of fish habitat. Walk back down and head up the left hand side of the trib. The left side goes up 120' before it subs underground. Coho fry present to this point end of fish habitat. The University boundary line is about 65' away. Need to talk with him about moving it out further for 100' buffer.

Trib 3 - sandy bottom 12-16" wide 2-4" deep coho fry present. Vegetation block found 84' up the trib end of fish habitat. This trib parallels trib 1.

Trib 4 - no fish vegetation block at the mouth.

Two adult coho spawning in the main channel approximately 100' from trib 4. Fairly bright fish. This area has had a major flood. The water was up at least 3 feet.

Trib 5 - sandy bottom, flooded recently. 12-20" wide 2-4" deep. Coho fry present vegetation block at 130'.

Trib 6 - (2357' up stream) (We will walk this one out on another day. Big trib)

Trib 7 - 2714' up stream 357' from trib 6 vertical block at entrance.

Trib 8 - 2806' up stream 449' from trib 6 nice trib 3' across tannic color, 6-8" deep splits at 40'. Coho fry present. Walk up right side vertical block at 35'. Walk up left side parallels main stem of Stellar Creek bows over to the right upper vertical block at 119'.

Adult coho remains found at 3099' up Stellar creek.

Trib 9 - 3637' This is the only one besides trib 6 that flows in from the left as you're walking upstream. Tannic in color 12-20" wide 2" deep. Flows through alot of vegetation. Difficult walking. Goes through alot of Devils Club and Alder (thicket). Coho fry present throughout the trib upper extent is a vegetation block at 410'.

Trib 10 - 3767' up stream. Coho fry present. Trib is 16-20" wide, 3-5" deep. 312' up the trib it splits. Going up the left side first. Heavily vegetated area. Vegetation block 128' up the trib. Coho fry present up to this point. Going up the right side - this side is also heavily vegetated. Vegetation block at 240' up the trib. Ed's Unit line is adjacent to the creek. Will talk with Ed about the boundary.

3870' upstream is another adult coho. Looks pretty dark.

Trib 11 has a vertical block right at the opening.

Trib 12 - 4035' upstream to the right. Gray sandy bottom coho fry present. This trib ends up flowing out of a 36" culvert off of the 3000 ML. There is a gradient change at the culvert 310' up stream marked this point makes for upper extent.

4080' upstream we found adult Dolly Varden and juvenile Dolly Varden. Nice looking fish 12 to 16".

4260' upstream the main channel splits. The right side has a vertical block and the left side subs underground for upper extent on both sides. The 20' bridge (Unit 14) is 442' away from upper extent.

Tuesday November 4, 1997

Walked down the 13/14 bridge to walk out Trib 6 for upper extent. Adult fish were present at the entrance of Trib 6. Coho fry present throughout the trib. Sandy bottom, with high flood plain, 3' wide, 6-8" deep. Smolts present at 679' Coho carcasses present at 803' up trib 6.

946' upstream trib 6 splits. The right fork is 2' wide 4'6" deep sand/clay bottom heading 124°. The left is 90° East same characteristics as the right. Water temperature 39°.

Walking up the right trib first - 370' upstream is another small trib with no fish flowing in on the left. Continuing up lots of coho fry present. Upper extent is 559' upstream. There is a 3' vertical block. Really ugly vegetation hard to walk through. Can hear the cutters and the road from here. Lots of water to the left of the trib almost like a head of a swamp. Dense Devil's club, ugly walking.

Walking up the left side - parallels the South Fork of the Yakataga River. Coho fry present throughout the trib. Walked 560' and it splits again. Looks like the main trib is to the right 196°. The left trib is going 110°. Coho fry have present to this point. Better vegetation.

Walking up the right side of the left trib split 2-3' wide cobble mud bottom. Can hear the road and cutters from here too. Trib goes up 105' then there is a 2 1/2' block with a gradient change above that. Comes out of a marshy area.

Going back to walked up the left side of the left trib split. Coho fry present. 2' Vertical block marked at 61' upstream.

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ADD STREAMS

192-30-11500-2032

-2032-3022

-2032-3049

}} = Bridge

ADD POLYGON

192-30-11500-2032-0910

"NUMEROUS COHO TRIBS."

updated
map
more TRIBS
found on this
survey.

300

9

8

UEL

U-13

2032

U-10

3022

(29)

upper
extent

U-10

ADD

U-14

3049

T-6 upper
extent

0910

upper extent for
fish Stellar CK

2032

3060

18

